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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 573
By Ford J

A RESOLUTION to urge health care professionals and managed care plans operating in Tennessee to adopt CDC and AAP recommendations for the use of antibiotics in their practice and formularies.

WHEREAS, antibiotic-resistant infections are more likely to produce adverse health outcomes and are more costly to treat than susceptible infections; and

WHEREAS, the widespread use of antibiotics has increased the type and incidence of bacteria that are resistant to treatment by antibiotics; and

WHEREAS, antibiotic resistance is caused by the overuse of antibiotics in general, with overuse of selected agents in particular; and

WHEREAS, over the past five years the rate of penicillin resistance increased by more than three hundred percent and the rate of cefotaxime resistance increased by more than one thousand percent; and

WHEREAS, patients infected with antibiotic-resistant strains of bacteria can require hospitalization when otherwise unnecessary and be subject to an increased rate of death; and

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WHEREAS, the process of creating antibiotic-resistance increases pharmaceutical costs through inappropriate prescribing of antibiotic agents and increased total health care costs the additional hospitalization and other forms of additional medical care required in the treatment of resistant strains of bacteria; and

WHEREAS, the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) have developed recommendations for health care professionals regarding best practices for the judicious use of antibiotics; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That the State of Tennessee endorses the CDC/AAP recommendations and urges each health care professional and managed care plan operating in Tennessee to adopt the recommendations in their practice and formularies.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an enrolled copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Commissioner of Commerce and Insurance and to the Commissioner of Health with this final clause omitted from such copy.